



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE ANNOUNCES 15% INCREASE IN DAY CARE FUNDING

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced an increase in the amount paid to day care service providers for clients in the Department of Social Services. The rate increase will pay an additional 15% in market rates for day care providers and creates a differential rate for child care providers who have achieved a nationally recognized accreditation standard. The funding increases will be supported by Monroe County's Department of Social Services and the New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG).

"The provision of good quality child care is critical for all families," said County Executive Jack Doyle. "Monroe County's commitment to assist the working poor and others needing assistance with child care is greatly enhanced by this announcement. Often the availability of child care services means the difference between a job or continued reliance on welfare."

The differential rate also represents a 15% increase over applicable market rates. Accreditation of these providers is given through nationally recognized child care organizations. These organizations include the National Association for Education of Young Children, the National Association for Family Child Care and the National School Age Child Care Association.

The 2000 Monroe County Budget included a 10% increase in child care funding, effective July 1. The additional funding necessary to meet the announced 15% increases is available through Monroe County's allocation under the NYSCCBG.

The NYSCCBG will provide Monroe County with \$1.4 million. Of this grant, \$900,000 in funds will be used to increase the day care rates and the remaining \$500,000 will fund payment of the differential rate to accredited providers.

These increases are consistent with payment rates established by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. The new rates were developed through a local market rate survey conducted in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements.

The families of more than 12,000 children currently receive assistance for the provision of child care through the Department of Social Services.

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